

simple and highlight the important information (number of kids in care in neighborhood, number of foster homes, number foster homes needed). REMEMBER TO STEER AWAY FROM AGENCY LINGO IN THESE MATERIALS.

- Develop plan to deal with individuals that want to focus on specific case examples. If families want to talk about their experiences (good or bad), that can be an excellent opportunity to build confidence in how F2F concepts may help address some past negative experiences. Your facilitator should be skilled in extrapolating the main concerns and let the concerned party know that their specific case issue will be addressed by a designated staff representative at the end of the meeting.
- Let the audience know that this is THEIR meeting and future meetings will focus on their needs through panel discussions, trainings, community mixers. Think outside of the box. Future forums can be family fairs, mixers, service agency card swaps, etc.
- Incorporate some type of community needs assessment in your evaluation tool to help identify the gaps in services in specific neighborhoods to address in future community meetings, groups, forums. Within this evaluation tool, also include the opportunity for participants to identify who is missing from the audience. This will build your community partnership base.
- Develop and provide a “How Can I Help” tool. You want to provide your audience with the opportunity to get involved with your efforts. Provide many options for participation as everyone may not be interested in becoming a foster parent or recruiting activities, but may want to become involved in the development of a neighborhood collaborative addressing child welfare issues and neighborhood needs.
- Have designated area where individuals can access resource information, recruitment information, and/or free giveaways-pens, pencils, school supplies, etc.
- Providing some type of child care and refreshments will increase your attendance.